

job that was done on the chairman of the Committee on the Judiciary, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HENRY HYDE).

Chuck Colson, legal counsel to the President under Richard Nixon, was sent to Federal prison for disclosing one-half of one FBI file. This administration: Hundreds of FBI files ended up in the hands of an opposition researcher for the Democratic Party at the White House. Nixon had an enemies list of people they would not invite to luncheons. This administration has a list of people it has set out to destroy.

Mr. Speaker, we have here a pattern of abuse, personal attacks on the gentlewoman from Idaho (Mrs. HELEN CHENOWETH), the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. DAN BURTON) and now the chairman of the Committee on the Judiciary. This is unconscionable. None of us is perfect, but we will not be intimidated, we will not be blackmailed. This administration is mirroring the worst types of lies, of Watergate lies and abuses, only it is worse.

To those who set forth this strategy of trying to disclose decades-old indiscretions in order to intimidate the Members of Congress, it will not work. We will not be intimidated.

THE SURPLUS BELONGS TO SOCIAL SECURITY

(Ms. DELAURO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, Social Security is the single most successful domestic program in our Nation's history, we all know that. It is a long-term financial bedrock for this country's elderly, for disabled, hardworking American families. Two-thirds of our elderly depend on Social Security for over half of their income. Social Security keeps 800,000 children out of poverty every year.

Mr. Speaker, right now Social Security is under attack. What we have here is a situation where the Republican leadership of this House wants to raid the Social Security Trust Fund in order to provide an \$80 billion tax break.

I am for tax cuts, Democrats are for tax cuts, but let me just say this to my colleagues:

If it was not for the Social Security Trust Fund, what people have to understand, we would not be showing a budget surplus. The surplus belongs to Social Security. It is not a spare cookie in the bottom of the jar just for the taking, and that is why Democrats are insisting that we should put any budget surplus toward the trust fund; let us not raid it.

WHITE HOUSE INVESTIGATING MEMBERS ON BOTH SIDES OF THE AISLE

(Mr. DELAY and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, we are witnessing more signs of the White House's scorched earth strategy. Allies of the President are now dishing dirt on the most respected Member of this House. This is a direct assault on the United States House of Representatives.

And do not be under any illusions that this is a partisan affair because, according to reports, allies of the President's are investigating Members of both sides of the aisle.

Now, Mr. Speaker, making a mistake is far different than, for example, obstructing justice. Abuse of power is far more serious than having an affair 30 years ago.

I just urge the President of the United States to stop his allies from engaging in this kind of disgusting conduct, and all of those who are blindly supporting this President ought to be ashamed of themselves.

This is a very sad day for democracy.

CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS, FY 1999

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 541 and ask for immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 541

Resolved, That upon the adoption of this resolution it shall be in order without intervention of any point of order to consider in the House the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 128) making continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 1999, and for other purposes. The joint resolution shall be considered as read for amendment. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the joint resolution to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations; and (2) one motion to recommit.

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, for purposes of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from South Boston, Massachusetts (Mr. MOAKLEY) pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. All time yielded will be for the purposes of debate only.

(Mr. DREIER asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material.)

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, this rule provides for consideration of H.J. Res. 128, making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 1999. It is a closed rule providing for 1 hour of debate in the House, equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations. The rule provides that the joint resolution be considered as read for amendment and one motion to recommit.

Mr. Speaker, the reality of divided government is that it takes a lot of hard work, tough decisions and sometimes uncomfortable confrontations to

enact major legislation. Certainly, funding the trillion dollar Federal Government falls into that category. Honest disagreements exist between the congressional majority and the President, the House and the Senate, the Democrats and the Republicans, and even within the two party caucuses in both the House and the Senate.

Every family that is forced to live on a budget, and that is most of the working people I know, understand that it is a lot harder to make spending decisions when they cannot just buy everything they want. That is the reality for working moms and dads who sit around the kitchen table and try to find the money for new school clothes, a short family vacation or finally replacing that beat-up old television set.

Last year's historic balanced budget agreement was a great victory for American families because it finally forced the President and Congress to make their own hard spending decisions. Imposing a real budget on the voracious Federal bureaucracy makes the appropriations job a lot tougher. While I am sure most compassionate Americans would feel badly for the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. LIVINGSTON) and his counterpart, the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY) who is not here on the floor, and the subcommittee chairman and ranking Democrats who have been asked to craft the 13 spending bills, I am also confident that they prefer those headaches to the rampant spending and deficits of not too many years ago.

I am equally confident, Mr. Speaker, that we will overcome the hurdles in the way of the appropriation process and will keep the Federal Government open and functioning into and through the new fiscal year. I certainly know of the commitment of the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. LIVINGSTON) and our entire Republican leadership team to do just that.

This continuing resolution funds ongoing projects and activities of the Federal Government at current rates except in instances that the Congress and administration agree on lower levels. This spending authority expires on October 9 of this year or when the regular appropriations bills are enacted.

Mr. Speaker, this is a clean continuing resolution without extraneous provisions, new projects or new spending initiatives. Recognizing the very real importance of focusing greater attention on making sure our government's mission-critical computer systems are able to handle the transition to the year 2000, this CR permits a funding increase for necessary computer conversions.

Mr. Speaker, there is no question that nearly unprecedented political and budgetary challenges face this Congress at this time. However, I know we will rise above them and get the people's work done. This fair, clean, continuing resolution will give us the time we need to finish the fiscal year 1999 appropriations bills within the

spending levels set out by the balanced budget agreement.

It is incumbent upon every Member, Democrat and Republican, to join together to support this rule and the joint resolution so that we can get that hard work done without any interference in government operations.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MOAKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. MOAKLEY asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MOAKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank my dear friend for many years, the gentleman from California (Mr. DREIER) my fellow traveler to El Salvador, the next in line to be chairman of the Committee on Rules, God willing according to him, for yielding me the customary 30 minutes.

House Resolution 541 is a closed rule providing for the consideration of a continuing resolution that will take us through October 9. I am very pleased to report that this continuing resolution is clean and it does not include any extra material, and I am sure that, if it remains in this form, the President will sign the legislation ending any speculation about a government shutdown come October 1.

□ 1045

That having been said, Mr. Speaker, it is unfortunate that we find ourselves in this position. With only 13 days left in the fiscal year, only 1 of the general appropriation bills has been presented to the President, while only a handful of bills are in conference. There are still 2 bills left that have to be considered by the House, while the Senate has passed 9 of the 13 appropriation bills. To say that we are behind schedule, Mr. Speaker, is an understatement.

But it is very encouraging that the chairman and ranking member of the Committee on Appropriations have presented us with a continuing resolution that they believe will afford enough time to make significant progress on the bills that are remaining. I certainly hope that they are able to resolve the many difficult issues that exist on these bills and are successful in getting all of the 13 bills to the President in a form he can sign.

Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the magnanimity of my friend from South Boston, and I would like to follow suit and urge support of this rule.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

The previous question was ordered.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to the rule just adopted, I call up

the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 128) making continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 1999, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the joint resolution.

The text of House Joint Resolution 128 is as follows:

H. J. RES. 128

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the following sums are hereby appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, and out of applicable corporate or other revenues, receipts, and funds, for the several departments, agencies, corporations, and other organizational units of Government for the fiscal year 1999, and for other purposes, namely:

SEC. 101. (a) Such amounts as may be necessary under the authority and conditions provided in the applicable appropriations Act for the fiscal year 1998 for continuing projects or activities including the costs of direct loans and loan guarantees (not otherwise specifically provided for in this joint resolution) which were conducted in the fiscal year 1998 and for which appropriations, funds, or other authority would be available in the following appropriations Acts:

(1) the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1999;

(2) the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1999, notwithstanding section 15 of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956, section 701 of the United States Information and Educational Exchange Act of 1948, section 313 of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1994 and 1995 (Public Law 103-236), and section 53 of the Arms Control and Disarmament Act;

(3) the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 1999, notwithstanding section 504(a)(1) of the National Security Act of 1947;

(4) the District of Columbia Appropriations Act, 1999;

(5) the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act, 1999;

(6) the Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 1999, notwithstanding section 10 of Public Law 91-672 and section 15 of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956;

(7) the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1999;

(8) the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1999, the House and Senate reported versions of which shall be deemed to have passed the House and Senate respectively as of October 1, 1998, for the purposes of this joint resolution, unless a reported version is passed as of October 1, 1998, in which case the passed version shall be used in place of the reported version for purposes of this joint resolution;

(9) the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 1999;

(10) the Department of Transportation and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1999;

(11) the Treasury and General Government Appropriations Act, 1999; and

(12) the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 1999;

Provided, That whenever the amount which would be made available or the authority which would be granted in these Acts as passed by the House and Senate as of October 1, 1998, is different than that which would

be available or granted under current operations, the pertinent project or activity shall be continued at a rate for operations not exceeding the current rate: *Provided further,* That whenever the amount of the budget request is less than the amount for current operations and the amount which would be made available or the authority which would be granted in these appropriations Acts as passed by the House and Senate as of October 1, 1998, is less than the amount for current operations, then the pertinent project or activity shall be continued at a rate for operations not exceeding the greater of the rates that would be provided by the amount of the budget request or the amount which would be made available or the authority which would be granted in these appropriations Acts: *Provided further,* That whenever there is no amount made available under any of these appropriations Acts as passed by the House and Senate as of October 1, 1998, for a continuing project or activity which was conducted in fiscal year 1998 and for which there is fiscal year 1999 funding included in the budget request, the pertinent project or activity shall be continued at a rate for operations not exceeding the lesser of the rates that would be provided by the amount of the budget request or the rate for current operations under the authority and conditions provided in the applicable appropriations Act for the fiscal year 1998.

(b) Whenever the amount which would be made available or the authority which would be granted under an Act listed in this section as passed by the House as of October 1, 1998, is different from that which would be available or granted under such Act as passed by the Senate as of October 1, 1998, the pertinent project or activity shall be continued at a rate for operations not exceeding the current rate under the appropriation, fund, or authority granted by the applicable appropriations Act for the fiscal year 1999 and under the authority and conditions provided in the applicable appropriations Act for the fiscal year 1998: *Provided,* That whenever the amount of the budget request is less than the amount for current operations and the amounts which would be made available or the authority which would be granted in these appropriations Acts as passed by the House and the Senate as of October 1, 1998, are both less than the amount for current operations, then the pertinent project or activity shall be continued at a rate for operations not exceeding the greater of the rates that would be provided by the amount of the budget request or the amount which would be made available or the authority which would be granted in the applicable appropriations Act as passed by the House or as passed by the Senate under the appropriation, fund, or authority provided in the applicable appropriations Act for the fiscal year 1999 and under the authority and conditions provided in the applicable appropriations Act for the fiscal year 1998.

(c) Whenever an Act listed in this section has been passed by only the House or only the Senate as of October 1, 1998, the pertinent project or activity shall be continued under the appropriation, fund, or authority granted by the one House at a rate for operations not exceeding the current rate and under the authority and conditions provided in the applicable appropriations Act for the fiscal year 1998: *Provided,* That whenever the amount of the budget request is less than the amount for current operations and the amounts which would be made available or the authority which would be granted in the appropriations Act as passed by the one House as of October 1, 1998, is less than the amount for current operations, then the pertinent project or activity shall be continued at a rate for operations not exceeding the

greater of the rates that would be provided by the amount of the budget request or the amount which would be made available or the authority which would be granted in the applicable appropriations Act as passed by the one House under the appropriation, fund, or authority provided in the applicable appropriations Act for the fiscal year 1999 and under the authority and conditions provided in the applicable appropriations Act for the fiscal year 1998: *Provided further*, That whenever there is no amount made available under any of these appropriations Acts as passed by the House or the Senate as of October 1, 1998, for a continuing project or activity which was conducted in fiscal year 1998 and for which there is fiscal year 1999 funding included in the budget request, the pertinent project or activity shall be continued at a rate for operations not exceeding the lesser of the rates that would be provided by the amount of the budget request or the rate for current operations under the authority and conditions provided in the applicable appropriations Act for the fiscal year 1998.

SEC. 102. No appropriation or funds made available or authority granted pursuant to section 101 for the Department of Defense shall be used for new production of items not funded for production in fiscal year 1998 or prior years, for the increase in production rates above those sustained with fiscal year 1998 funds, or to initiate, resume, or continue any project, activity, operation, or organization which are defined as any project, subproject, activity, budget activity, program element, and subprogram within a program element and for investment items are further defined as a P-1 line item in a budget activity within an appropriation account and an R-1 line item which includes a program element and subprogram element within an appropriation account, for which appropriations, funds, or other authority were not available during the fiscal year 1998: *Provided*, That no appropriation or funds made available or authority granted pursuant to section 101 for the Department of Defense shall be used to initiate multi-year procurements utilizing advance procurement funding for economic order quantity procurement unless specifically appropriated later.

SEC. 103. Appropriations made by section 101 shall be available to the extent and in the manner which would be provided by the pertinent appropriations Act.

SEC. 104. No appropriation or funds made available or authority granted pursuant to section 101 shall be used to initiate or resume any project or activity for which appropriations, funds, or other authority were not available during the fiscal year 1998.

SEC. 105. No provision which is included in an appropriations Act enumerated in section 101 but which was not included in the applicable appropriations Act for fiscal year 1998 and which by its terms is applicable to more than one appropriation, fund, or authority shall be applicable to any appropriation, fund, or authority provided in this joint resolution.

SEC. 106. Unless otherwise provided for in this joint resolution or in the applicable appropriations Act, appropriations and funds made available and authority granted pursuant to this joint resolution shall be available until (a) enactment into law of an appropriation for any project or activity provided for in this joint resolution, or (b) the enactment into law of the applicable appropriations Act by both Houses without any provision for such project or activity, or (c) October 9, 1998, whichever first occurs.

SEC. 107. Appropriations made and authority granted pursuant to this joint resolution shall cover all obligations or expenditures incurred for any program, project, or activity during the period for which funds or au-

thority for such project or activity are available under this joint resolution.

SEC. 108. Expenditures made pursuant to this joint resolution shall be charged to the applicable appropriation, fund, or authorization whenever a bill in which such applicable appropriation, fund, or authorization is contained is enacted into law.

SEC. 109. No provision in the appropriations Act for the fiscal year 1999 referred to in section 101 of this Act that makes the availability of any appropriation provided therein dependent upon the enactment of additional authorizing or other legislation shall be effective before the date set forth in section 106(c) of this joint resolution.

SEC. 110. Appropriations and funds made available by or authority granted pursuant to this joint resolution may be used without regard to the time limitations for submission and approval of apportionments set forth in section 1513 of title 31, United States Code, but nothing herein shall be construed to waive any other provision of law governing the apportionment of funds.

SEC. 111. This joint resolution shall be implemented so that only the most limited funding action of that permitted in the joint resolution shall be taken in order to provide for continuation of projects and activities.

SEC. 112. Notwithstanding any other provision of this joint resolution, except section 106, for those programs that had high initial rates of operation or complete distribution of fiscal year 1998 appropriations at the beginning of that fiscal year because of distributions of funding to States, foreign countries, grantees or others, similar distributions of funds for fiscal year 1999 shall not be made and no grants shall be awarded for such programs funded by this resolution that would impinge on final funding prerogatives.

SEC. 113. Notwithstanding any other provision of this joint resolution, except section 106, the rate for operations for projects and activities that would be funded under the heading "International Organizations and Conferences, Contributions to International Organizations" in the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1999, shall be the amount provided by the provisions of section 101 multiplied by the ratio of the number of days covered by this resolution to 365.

SEC. 114. Notwithstanding any other provision of this joint resolution, except section 106, the rate for operations for the following activities funded with Federal Funds for the District of Columbia, shall be at a rate for operations not exceeding the current rate, multiplied by the ratio of the number of days covered by this joint resolution to 365: Corrections Trustee Operations, Offender Supervision, Public Defender Services, Parole Revocation, Adult Probation, and Court Operations.

SEC. 115. Activities authorized by sections 1309(a)(2), 1319, 1336(a), and 1376(c) of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4001 et seq.), may continue through the date specified in section 106 of this joint resolution.

SEC. 116. Section 28f(a) of title 30, U.S.C., is amended by striking the words "The holder" through "\$100 per claim." And inserting "The holder of each unpatented mining claim, mill, or tunnel site located pursuant to the mining laws of the United States before October 1, 1998 shall pay the Secretary of the Interior, on or before September 1, 1999 a claim maintenance fee of \$100 per claim site." Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the time for locating any unpatented mining claim, mill, or tunnel site pursuant to 30 U.S.C. 28g may continue through the date specified in section 106 of this joint resolution.

SEC. 117. The amounts charged for patent fees through the date provided in section 106 shall be the amounts charged by the Patent and Trademark Office on September 30, 1998, including any applicable surcharges collected pursuant to section 8001 of P.L. 103-66: *Provided*, That such fees shall be credited as offsetting collections to the Patent and Trademark Office Salaries and Expenses account: *Provided further*, That during the period covered by this joint resolution, the commissioner may recognize fees that reflect partial payment of the fees authorized by this section and may require unpaid amounts to be paid within a time period set by the Commissioner.

SEC. 118. Notwithstanding sections 101, 104, and 106 of this joint resolution, until 30 days after the date specified in section 106, funds may be used to initiate or resume projects or activities at a rate in excess of the current rate to the extent necessary, consistent with existing agency plans, to achieve Year 2000 (Y2K) computer conversion.

SEC. 119. Notwithstanding any other provision of this joint resolution, except section 106, the amount made available for projects and activities for decennial census programs shall be the higher of the amount that would be provided under the heading "Bureau of the Census, Periodic Censuses and Programs" in the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1999, as passed by the House, or the amount that would be provided by such Act as passed by the Senate, or the amount of the budget request, multiplied by the ratio of the number of days covered by this resolution to 365.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 541, the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. LIVINGSTON), and the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. LIVINGSTON).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LIVINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H.J. Res. 128, and that I may include tabular and extraneous material.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Louisiana?

There was no objection.

(Mr. LIVINGSTON asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LIVINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, we are bringing H. J. Res. 128, a continuing resolution for fiscal year 1999, to the House today because it is likely that all 13 of the regular appropriations bills will, unfortunately, not be enacted by the beginning of the fiscal year on October 1st. This resolution is needed to keep the government operating while we complete our work on our appropriations bills. Its duration is until October 9th, or until the bills are enacted, whichever comes first.

The fact that we are bringing this resolution to the floor today should surprise no one. For some time now, it has been apparent that this type of

short-term funding authorization would be needed. It has also been widely known that this resolution would be straightforward and not include any extraneous controversial matters that might result in a government shutdown. Mr. Speaker, while I wish that this resolution were not needed, I am pleased that it is a noncontroversial proposal and should move quickly through the process, be signed into law, and give the time that we need to complete our work.

Mr. Speaker, this resolution uses the same funding formula as was used last year. This formula generally allows programs to continue at current rates. If the budget request is lower than current rates for a particular program and both the House and the Senate agree that it should be lower, this CR, or continuing resolution, takes advantage of this and reduces the rate accordingly. This CR also includes the same restrictions on initiating new starts, maintaining last year's terms and conditions, and restricting the early release of monies to States, foreign countries, and grantees that have been previously included. Again, Mr. Speaker, it does not include any extraneous controversial matters.

There is another significant aspect to this CR, and CRs in general, that I would like to point out to my colleagues, especially those who think that an automatic, permanent CR should be enacted so that we could avoid having to take the action that we are now taking. This continuing resolution includes several special funding provisions for programs for which the funding formula does not work. We call these funding anomalies. They happen every year. One cannot predict what they are or the solution to take care of them. But, they must be addressed or else significant undesirable impacts result if they are not addressed. So my point in bringing this to the attention of Members is that even if there were an automatic continuing resolution that we had adopted weeks or months ago, we would still be out here with an absolutely necessary technical adjustment to the permanent funding authority. This would give rise to an opportunity for extraneous mischief, the very thing that is supposed to be avoided in the automatic CR scenario. So, in my view, there is no way around the need for ad hoc legislation even with the automatic continuing resolution. The solution to this exposure is to have the member discipline not to add extraneous matters, as we have exercised today.

Mr. Speaker, this is not the main reason to not enact an automatic CR. The main reason is it removes the pressure to get our regular work completed, in addition to biasing the negotiating process on annual funding bills. Now I want to talk about getting our work done.

The Military Construction bill is on the President's desk. There are 7 more bills in conference, and one more has

been acted on by both the House and the Senate and is ready to go to conference, for a total of 9 bills. Today the House should complete action on the Foreign Operations bill, giving us another bill, a tenth bill, ready for conference. Now, that leaves only 3 left. The House has passed 2 of the 3; the Senate has to pass all 3.

There is still a lot of work in front of us, but we are getting there. Just because this continuing resolution gives us until October 9th to finish our work, no one should think that we can relax now. It will take a sustained drive and the cooperation of all Members, both in this body and the other, to get our work done by this deadline.

We face a situation on 7 or 8 of our bills where a veto has been threatened because of a lack of spending. Our bills are at the cap levels. This means that to increase spending on these bills, some form of offset would be required, or else we would exceed the caps that were agreed to between the Congress and the President last year when we reached an agreement on the balanced budget, which has reaped great rewards, Mr. Speaker. We are actually, even though that balanced budget agreement called for balancing of the budget by the year 2002, balancing the budget this year and have an expected surplus of at least \$63 billion.

But, returning to my previous point, this means that to increase spending on these bills, some form of offset would be required. Offsets can be in the form of reduced spending on other programs, including mandatory programs or entitlements or raising revenues in the form of user fees for taxes. This causes several problems. Mandatory offsets are easier said than done. Raising taxes or enacting user fees are definitely not in this committee's jurisdiction. And even if they were, I am not aware of any popular tax increases or user fee increases that we could easily put in our bills in order to satisfy the President's additional spending requests, or desires.

This has been an historic problem for the committee. For years budgets have included these types of offsets to enable more spending. It is just that the amount of the needed offset is so much bigger this year than it has ever been. The spending in this year's budget request was \$9 billion over the caps which would require that same amount in offsets. This is a very difficult problem to overcome, and still stay within the caps. Administration officials claim to have some ideas on offsets that could help us get the job done, and we asked to see those offsets that they had said they had as far back as July, some 2 months ago, but we still have not seen them. They promised, maybe the check is in the mail, but we have not seen it.

Another complicating factor this year is that we are facing some large emergency funding needs that have to be addressed before we can complete our work this year. We will need to ad-

dress funding for agriculture disasters and other agriculture problems. We will soon be in receipt of a request to increase security at our diplomatic posts around the world in the face of what happened in Tanzania and Kenya. We have urgent additional defense needs to maintain readiness while we are experiencing the additional costs of maintaining peacekeeping efforts all over the world. Then there is the unforeseen costs of making government-wide computer conversions to account for the year 2000 problem. These problems are very expensive and there may be more of them, and we need to address these in a bipartisan fashion at the same time we are developing the regular funding packages.

Our plate is full. It might be fun to debate these issues this morning; it might be fun to blame everyone for the slow pace of our activities, but such debate really in the long run has little or no merit. We ought to pass this continuing resolution quickly so that we can concentrate on our work needed to finish up this fiscal year and this legislative season.

This continuing resolution will keep the government open for a little bit longer than the next 3 weeks. We do not have much time. We need to get on with it.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

There is no objection to this continuing resolution on this side of the aisle. The resolution is perfectly reasonable. It is a straight, neutral continuation of funding, and it is essential in order to keep the government open. The President will sign it. He has made that quite clear in the statement he sent this morning, and I think every Member of the House, if there is a vote on this, ought to vote for it.

Having said that, I think it is regrettable that we have been brought here by an unhappy set of circumstances. Last year we had a considerable degree of bipartisan cooperation between both parties, and as a result, we achieved I think some real substantive victories for the American people, something which this House on both sides of the aisle can take pride in, and we had an extremely civil year of doing the people's business.

Everyone understands that the gentleman from Louisiana and I have a very good personal relationship. I consider him to be one of the best friends I have in the House and one of the best legislators in the House. I am proud of that relationship.

However, there have been many external factors which have operated to make our job much more difficult this year. We have, in my view, instead of seeing a mindset of cooperation from the majority caucus, this year we have had much more of a mindset of confrontation on at least half of the appropriation bills that have moved through this House.

Under the law, we are supposed to have the budget resolution passed by the time we have our summer break, and we are supposed to have all 13 appropriation bills passed by October 1.

□ 1100

We are in the situation, and this has not happened, I do not believe, since I have been here, where we still do not have a budget resolution passed. So we are operating on an ad hoc basis because of that. That makes it more difficult for this committee to do its work.

It is not unprecedented for the House not to finish all of its appropriation bills before October 1. We were fortunate enough that we were able to do that the year that I was chairman. That was not because of any special action taken by me or by my committee. We did have a very good bipartisan working relationship that year. But we also had the leadership of both parties working together along with the White House to make it happen.

We have not seen that this year, unfortunately. So as a consequence, not a single appropriation bill has yet been signed into law. I think I need to cite some of the reasons for that.

First of all, the majority has chosen to produce a Labor, Health, Education, and Social Services bill which was so extreme in its nature that they have not been able to pass it in this House.

The Senate, their Senate Republican counterparts have produced a significantly more moderate bill; still not what we need to have a signed product. But the very act of restoring some of the funding that the Senate has restored for programs like low income heating assistance and summer jobs, that very act demonstrates that the majority in the other body recognizes that the Labor, Health, Education appropriation bill produced by the majority in this House is so extreme that they do not want anything to do with it.

On the Veterans Administration, HUD, EPA bill, that bill should have been on the President's desk. It has a number of problems associated with it which are solvable; but, yet, that bill has been thrown into turmoil because of the insistence of the majority that they attach a totally irrelevant housing authorization bill, a huge bill which the authorizing committee has not been able to get through the Congress.

So they lay it onto the appropriation bill, asking the Committee on Appropriations to carry that extra freight, and that is more freight than the system will bear. So that has broken down.

On interior, the bill that funds most of our natural treasurers and the preservation and stewardship of those treasures on an annual basis, that bill has been loaded down with extreme environmental riders in the other body, unnecessary roads through wilderness areas, additional logging of the Tongass.

I was in Alaska last year. I was horrified when I overflowed the Tongass and some of the other areas and saw some of the extreme clear-cutting that have been going on by the native corporations up there. That had not fit my impression of what had been happening up there.

We had a bill on the interior appropriation bill that would make that matter worse on the transportation appropriation bill. Again, we have seen an antienvironmental rider added, which takes a bill which ought to have been relatively noncontroversial. I was very surprised that that bill had not been sent to the President a long time ago. But riders like that have held that bill up as well.

Agriculture. This Congress or rather the previous Congress voted for the horrendous so-called Freedom to Farm Bill which has turned into a Freedom-to-Fail-at-Farming bill because of the lack of a safety net that is provided for American farmers in that legislation. It is obvious the majority party does not know how to deal with that, so that appropriation bill is hung up also.

That matter is then made worse by the refusal of the majority party to support funding for the IMF so that we can provide some additional stability in our export markets so that we have a greater ability to export our agricultural products to those areas. Yet, we are being denied an opportunity in this House even to vote on that crucial issue.

The District of Columbia appropriation bill has been held up by a gratuitous decision on the part of this body to insist that the District of Columbia engage in an experiment on educational vouchers which many of us would not support if that were mandated on our own local districts.

Then we come to the foreign operations bill. That bill in the past has been handled on a bipartisan basis, and the bill has largely been worked out before it has come to the floor. This time, for a variety of reasons, that has not happened, despite the agreement that was voiced in the Committee on Appropriations that the majority would have its language in the bill on the Mexico City family planning issue.

We were told that, as part of that agreement, if we did not try to take the language out of the bill, we would have, on this side of the aisle an opportunity for an alternative to be offered so that we could have an up or down vote on the two viewpoints on that issue.

The gentlewoman from California (Ms. PELOSI) has been blocked from having a clean shot at an alternative. In addition to that, the Committee on Rules is preventing us from even having a vote on the IMF. That vote is central to helping to stabilize international exchange rates, to stabilize the international trading arrangements so that we have an opportunity to try to do something about the deep recession which is plaguing at least

one-third of the world and threatens to cripple our own economic recovery. So we have had all kinds of these gratuitous roadblocks put in the way of our getting our business done.

I would say it appears to me that this Congress has done an extensive job of investigating but a pitiful job of legislating when it comes to meeting the primary responsibility this Congress has each year, which is to keep the government open by funding the basic activities of government through the appropriations process.

This committee has once again been thrown into the briar patch on many issue that we do not have the expertise to deal with and do not have the jurisdiction to deal with it.

I would point out also that, well I will not comment on the Korean situation until we get the foreign ops bill up, but I just have to say this, I am disturbed by the fact that virtually none of these bills are really moving.

It seems to me that there is a conscious decision on the part of a number of the players to want to push their bills into a giant omnibus appropriation bill at the end so that they can send a huge vehicle to the President and on a take-it-or-leave-it basis.

I hope that is not true because that is the way that we get into an awful lot of trouble around here. We need to be trying to work out these individual bills. We do not need a situation to be developed where the Congress tries to take advantage of what the majority party may see as the perceived weakening of the President's position and use that to try to ram at him and stick in his ear a whole range of outrageous propositions that they know he is certainly not willing to accept, as we are not willing to accept.

So I would simply say that I think the committee is doing the responsible thing in bringing this continuing resolution to the floor in the shape it is in. I do not think that the process by which we have gotten here has been particularly responsible. That is not the chairman's fault, but I do want to say that I expect we are going to have to have a number of additional short-term continuing resolutions because it certainly seems to me that it is not likely that we will have our work done for the next fiscal year by the time this pending continuing resolution expires in early October.

I hope that there is a willingness to stay in session this year until our job is done on these bills.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I would only point out in response to the gentleman's comments that I sympathize with his frustration. We are at the end of the year. We have gone through a great deal of tug and pull on lots of legislation but we are down to the last two bills. In the next few weeks, we are going to get

through those bills. Whether there is an omnibus bill or not is still too early to tell. I would love to make sure that we get each individual bill signed, but that takes cooperation from not only this body and the other body but the White House as well.

They have indicated that they have no objection, the White House has no objection, to this particular resolution, and I would urge the House to adopt it in its current form, and I think that is just what we should do and let the rest of it take place in its natural order.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, may I inquire how much time I have remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD). The gentleman from Wisconsin has 16 minutes remaining.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. MORAN).

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I thank the very distinguished ranking Member of the Committee on Appropriations for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I also thank the chairman of the Committee on Appropriations for those last words that the chairman uttered. They are music to our ears. The chairman committed himself to assure that these appropriations bills, all of them except military construction, which is now on the President's desk and we assume would be signed, those other bills will, in fact, get passed; no government shutdown, no delaying the government, getting the Congress' business done when it needs to be done.

I understand that the principal reason why our appropriation bills have been delayed, at least from a procedural standpoint, is that this is the first time, since the budget act was passed, that we have no budget resolution. It was due April 15. So it has been very difficult for the Committee on Appropriations to fulfill its responsibility when we have no budget resolution.

This CR is the right thing. I hope this is a precedent to have an appropriations bill, a continuing resolution which does not have any of the divisive issues, which is not designed to cause the President to veto it, which is simply designed to enable the government to function in the proper way. It shows it can be done.

My fear is that we will get to October 9 and despite the best efforts of the Committee on Appropriations, Members will add things in appropriations bills that were not designed to enable the government to carry out its proper role but instead were designed for purely partisan political purposes, knowing they would force the President to veto any of those individual appropriations bills. At least if we have a continuing resolution, it should be similar to this bill today, one that will enable the government to continue functioning.

The worst thing we could do is to shut down the government, to have a

repeat of 1995. None of us want that to happen, particularly in the context that we are currently operating. So it is incumbent upon the leadership of the Committee on Appropriations, but most importantly the Members of Congress who may have ideas that they think are meritorious but in reality would only cause the government to stop functioning to keep our appropriations bills clean. Another government shutdown is the one thing that must be avoided.

So let me just thank the leadership on both sides of the aisle for this continuing resolution. I trust it will be passed unanimously, and I trust that it is a precedent for the kind of bipartisan cooperation that serves this Congress well but most importantly serves this nation well.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I would only say that I appreciate the comments of the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. Moran) and share his sentiment about the shutdown. I do not think anybody wants that on this side.

□ 1115

We certainly look forward to working with the Members of the minority to make sure that there is no shutdown. We hope that the administration and the President are equally committed to maintaining the continuity of government so that Federal employees will not be impacted unnecessarily.

On his other point on the budget resolution, I would like to challenge the gentleman's recollection, because in the 21 years that I have been here, all of which have transpired since the passage of the budget resolution, I believe we have come through this process without a budget resolution on at least two occasions, and possibly more frequently than that back in the 1980s when the Democrats were in control.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DOGGETT).

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, it is encouraging to hear the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. LIVINGSTON) indicate that the Republicans are not interested in shutting down the government again as they did in 1995. Certainly, if by voting for this resolution we can discourage them from doing that again, that would be important to the country.

It seems these days that the "all news" channels and the semi-pseudo-news channels are preoccupied with a new format of "All Monica, All the Time," and I do not suppose that there is any way to get them to refocus on anything else like this mess. But I think it is worth noting the mess that we are in and how we got here.

I serve on the Committee on the Budget and the way this process is supposed to work is that the Committee on the Budget is supposed to produce a

timely budget resolution which this House is to adopt and the Senate is to adopt. That budget provides the format around which our Committee on Appropriations can approve the 13 appropriation bills and avoid a government shutdown.

Mr. Speaker, there is only one problem. For the first time I guess in the history of the Budget Act, certainly in recent memory, there is no budget. Now, that is the Republican leadership. It is not a matter, as the chairman of the Committee on Appropriations indicated, of trying to cast blame everywhere. Blame does not belong everywhere. It just belongs one place. Right up here with the Republican leadership. They are leading. They have the majority and they claim and profess to be very concerned with fiscal responsibility, and yet we have come through this year and they cannot even produce a budget.

It is, indeed, rather amusing to hear some of these commentators ask whether or not the government will slow down because of all the revelations and scandals that they are focusing on. If this House slows down any more, it will be going backwards. This is the House that could not produce a budget, that has produced exactly 1 of the 13 appropriation bills over there on the President's desk.

The people that are asking, well, can the President do his job? Well, the President cannot sign appropriation bills that are not on his desk. And right now, 2 weeks before the government is to conclude this fiscal year, it has no budget and one of 13 appropriation bills.

Credit is due here. These folks had a preconceived notion that the best thing, given the fragile nature of their coalition, was to do as little as possible this year except perhaps occasionally painting Democrats as pagans. They have done a pretty good job of both. They have done a pretty good job of doing nothing. And whenever they tried to do something, such as the appropriations for all of the Health and Human Services in the United States, they could not agree between themselves.

So, here we are 2 weeks before the conclusion of this fiscal year and we have yet to have a chance to vote on the floor of this House concerning the appropriations for all of the Health and Human Services operations throughout this whole country.

Folks want to focus only on what has happened down at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue. This is a true crisis for the country, that if our Republican friends continue to pursue a policy of doing just next to nothing, as little as they possibly can, and if they continue to tuck into these appropriation bills anti-environmental provisions, as they did with some of the appropriation bills earlier that they could not pass on their own merit, but more dirty water and less clean air is something they can tuck into the fine print of the appropriation bills on the few that they

do pass, if they continue to pursue that approach, then simply passing the resolution for which we are going to join in bipartisan support this morning will not get the job done and will not avoid a government shutdown.

So, let us get to work, have clean appropriation bills that finance the government, that make up for about 9 months of doing next to nothing, get a budget out here and let us move the country along on the problems that really matter in the lives of families that are struggling to make a go out there across America.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I do not believe I have any more requests for time, but let me simply say that as much as I appreciate the comments of the preceding speaker, I find it intriguing to hear a Member of the Committee on the Budget complain about the fact that there is no budget.

As an appropriator, I regret that. But I would have to say that it really does not make any difference, because the leadership of this Congress in both the House and Senate agreed with this President last year, about a year ago, almost maybe 13 months ago, to balance the budget. When? By the year 2002. And they gave us a platform on how to do it.

Mr. Speaker, I believe the gentleman must have been a party to that because he is on the Committee on the Budget. They gave us a program to balance the budget by the year 2002. Lo and behold, because of their good works, we have a balanced budget not in the year 2002, but this year. We have a surplus for the first time in my adult life, \$63-billion-plus surplus.

We should be proud of that. Last year, the President of the United States, and I believe he is a Democrat, agreed with the leadership of both Houses of the Congress to set caps on the amount of spending within the discretionary part of the budget. We are proposing funding up to those caps. We are spending exactly the amount of money that the President agreed to. In fact, I dare say it is possible, with some emergency funding, we may exceed the spending of the cap levels. But we are basically adhering to rules on those caps.

The gentleman that preceded me should be proud of that instead of haranguing us on the floor for no budget resolution, which means nothing anyway. We are spending what the President agreed to, and he should applaud that, and he should rejoice for all Americans are better off for our actions.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 3 minutes.

Mr. Speaker, the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. LIVINGSTON), my good friend, has given an interesting speech. It really does not have a whole lot to

do with what the previous speaker just said.

The gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. LIVINGSTON) has indicated that this is not an unprecedented situation. The fact is, I believe, if he will check the record he will find out, that we have never gotten to the end of the session without the passage of a budget resolution.

I would point out also that the responsibility for that is very clear. It lies with the people who run the Congress, because the President does not sign the budget resolution. He has no role in determining what the budget resolution is. The budget resolution is a Congressional Budget Resolution. There is none, and that is why this institution has been forced to operate on an ad hoc basis.

Mr. Speaker, I would point out also that just because there was a budget agreement to live within certain caps, does not mean that this Congress is free to load up all of these appropriation bills with anti-environmental riders, with anti-consumer riders, with all kinds of unrelated and nongermane amendments, which turn relatively benign appropriation bills into highly controversial matters that the majority party itself is split over.

So it just seems to me, and I do not want to continue this, I raise this simply because I believe that if we are going to get out of here before November 3, we must have a different mindset than we have seen this year. This Congress must return and the majority party must return to the mind-set that they exhibited the year before when there was strong bipartisan cooperation, strong cooperation with the President, and as a result we had a year that I thought all of us could be proud of. This year has not been that kind of year because of the decision to revert to a confrontation mode on the part of the House Republican Caucus, at least some elements of it. I think it is that mind-set which must be changed if we are not going to be here two and three more times before the end of the calendar year, providing for yet another short-term continuing resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD). All time for debate has expired.

The joint resolution is considered as having been read for amendment.

Pursuant to House Resolution 541, the previous question is ordered.

The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the joint resolution.

The joint resolution was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, and was read the third time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on passage of the joint resolution.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Evidently a quorum is not present.

The Sergeant at Arms will notify absent Members.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 421, nays 0, not voting 13, as follows:

[Roll No. 445]

YEAS—421

Abercrombie	Crane	Hayworth
Ackerman	Crapo	Hefley
Aderholt	Cubin	Herger
Allen	Cummings	Hill
Andrews	Cunningham	Hilleary
Archer	Danner	Hilliard
Armey	Davis (FL)	Hinchee
Bachus	Davis (IL)	Hinojosa
Baesler	Davis (VA)	Hobson
Baker	Deal	Hoekstra
Baldacci	DeFazio	Holden
Ballenger	DeGette	Hooley
Barcia	Delahunt	Horn
Barr	DeLauro	Hostettler
Barrett (NE)	DeLay	Houghton
Barrett (WI)	Deutsch	Hoyer
Bartlett	Diaz-Balart	Hulshof
Barton	Dickey	Hunter
Bass	Dicks	Hutchinson
Bateman	Dingell	Hyde
Becerra	Dixon	Inglis
Bentsen	Doggett	Istook
Bereuter	Dooley	Jackson (IL)
Berman	Doolittle	Jackson-Lee
Berry	Doyle	(TX)
Bilbray	Dreier	Jefferson
Bilirakis	Duncan	Jenkins
Bishop	Dunn	Johnson (CT)
Blagojevich	Edwards	Johnson (WI)
Bliley	Ehlers	Johnson, E. B.
Blumenauer	Ehrlich	Johnson, Sam
Blunt	Emerson	Jones
Boehlert	Engel	Kanjorski
Boehner	English	Kaptur
Bonilla	Ensign	Kasich
Bonior	Eshoo	Kelly
Bono	Etheridge	Kennedy (MA)
Borski	Evans	Kennedy (RI)
Boswell	Everett	Kennelly
Boucher	Ewing	Kildee
Boyd	Farr	Kilpatrick
Brady (PA)	Fattah	Kim
Brady (TX)	Fawell	Kind (WI)
Brown (CA)	Filner	King (NY)
Brown (FL)	Foley	Kingston
Brown (OH)	Ford	Klecza
Bryant	Fossella	Klink
Bunning	Fowler	Klug
Burr	Fox	Knollenberg
Burton	Frank (MA)	Kolbe
Buyer	Franks (NJ)	Kucinich
Callahan	Frelinghuysen	LaFalce
Calvert	Frost	LaHood
Camp	Furse	Lampson
Campbell	Galleghy	Lantos
Canady	Ganske	Largent
Cannon	Gejdenson	Latham
Capps	Gekas	LaTourette
Cardin	Gephardt	Lazio
Carson	Gibbons	Leach
Castle	Gilchrest	Lee
Chabot	Gillmor	Levin
Chambliss	Gilman	Lewis (CA)
Chenoweth	Goode	Lewis (GA)
Christensen	Goodlatte	Lewis (KY)
Clay	Goodling	Linder
Clayton	Gordon	Lipinski
Clement	Graham	Livingston
Clyburn	Granger	LoBiondo
Coble	Green	Lofgren
Coburn	Greenwood	Lowey
Collins	Gutierrez	Lucas
Combest	Gutknecht	Luther
Condit	Hall (OH)	Maloney (CT)
Conyers	Hall (TX)	Maloney (NY)
Cook	Hamilton	Manton
Cooksey	Hansen	Manzullo
Costello	Harman	Markey
Cox	Hastert	Martinez
Coyne	Hastings (FL)	Mascara
Cramer	Hastings (WA)	Matsui

McCarthy (MO)	Petri	Smith, Adam
McCarthy (NY)	Pickering	Smith, Linda
McCollum	Pickett	Snowbarger
McCrery	Pitts	Snyder
McDade	Pombo	Solomon
McDermott	Pomeroy	Souder
McGovern	Porter	Spence
McHale	Portman	Spratt
McHugh	Price (NC)	Stabenow
McInnis	Quinn	Stark
McIntosh	Radanovich	Stearns
McIntyre	Rahall	Stenholm
McKeon	Ramstad	Strickland
McKinney	Rangel	Stump
McNulty	Redmond	Stupak
Meehan	Regula	Sununu
Meek (FL)	Reyes	Talent
Meeks (NY)	Riley	Tanner
Menendez	Rivers	Tauscher
Mica	Rodriguez	Tauzin
Millender-	Roemer	Taylor (MS)
McDonald	Rogan	Taylor (NC)
Miller (CA)	Rogers	Thomas
Miller (FL)	Rohrabacher	Thompson
Minge	Ros-Lehtinen	Thornberry
Mink	Rothman	Thune
Moakley	Roukema	Thurman
Mollohan	Roybal-Allard	Tiahrt
Moran (KS)	Rush	Tierney
Moran (VA)	Ryun	Torres
Morella	Sabo	Towns
Murtha	Salmon	Traficant
Myrick	Sanchez	Turner
Nadler	Sanders	Upton
Neal	Sandlin	Velazquez
Nethercutt	Sanford	Vento
Neumann	Sawyer	Visclosky
Ney	Saxton	Walsh
Northup	Scarborough	Wamp
Norwood	Schaefer, Dan	Waters
Nussle	Schaffer, Bob	Watkins
Oberstar	Scott	Watt (NC)
Obey	Sensenbrenner	Watts (OK)
Olver	Serrano	Waxman
Ortiz	Sessions	Weldon (FL)
Owens	Shadegg	Weldon (PA)
Oxley	Shaw	Weller
Packard	Shays	Wexler
Pallone	Sherman	Weygand
Pappas	Shimkus	White
Parker	Shuster	Whitfield
Pascarell	Sisisky	Wicker
Pastor	Skaggs	Wilson
Paul	Skeen	Wise
Paxon	Skelton	Wolf
Payne	Slaughter	Woolsey
Pease	Smith (MI)	Wynn
Pelosi	Smith (NJ)	Yates
Peterson (MN)	Smith (OR)	Young (AK)
Peterson (PA)	Smith (TX)	Young (FL)

NOT VOTING—13

Fazio	John	Royce
Forbes	Metcalfe	Schumer
Gonzalez	Poshard	Stokes
Goss	Pryce (OH)	
Hefner	Riggs	

□ 1146

Mr. DOOLEY of California and Mr. CALLAHAN changed their vote from "nay" to "yea."

So the joint resolution was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4569, FOREIGN OPERATIONS, EXPORT FINANCING AND RELATED PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1999

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 542 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 542

Resolved, That at any time after the adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pur-

suant to clause 1(b) of rule XXIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4569) making appropriations for foreign operations, export financing, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999, and for other purposes. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. Points of order against consideration of the bill for failure to comply with clause 1(b) of rule X, clause 2(l)(6) of rule XI, or clause 7 of rule XXI are waived. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule for a period not to exceed five hours. The bill shall be considered as read through page 141, line 18. Points of order against provisions in the bill for failure to comply with clause 2 or 6 of rule XXI are waived. No amendment to the bill shall be in order except: (1) pro forma amendments for the purpose of debate; (2) amendments printed in the portion of the Congressional Record designated for that purpose in clause 6 of rule XXIII; and (3) amendments printed in the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution. Each of the amendments printed in the report of the Committee on Rules may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, may be offered only at the appropriate point in the reading of the bill, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment except as specified in the report, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole. All points of order against the amendments printed in the report are waived. The chairman of the Committee of the Whole may: (1) postpone until a time during further consideration in the Committee of the Whole a request for a recorded vote on any amendment; and (2) reduce to five minutes the minimum time for electronic voting on any postponed question that follows another electronic vote without intervening business, provided that the minimum time for electronic voting on the first in any series of questions shall be 15 minutes. At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill to the House with such amendments as may have been adopted. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD). The gentleman from New York (Mr. SOLOMON) is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, for purposes of debate only, I yield half of our time to the gentleman from Dayton, Ohio (Mr. HALL), my good friend, pending which I yield myself such time as I might consume. Mr. Speaker, during consideration of the resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

Mr. Speaker, let me just say that House Resolution 542 is a modified open rule. It provides for the consideration of H.R. 4569, which is the Foreign Operations and Export Financing appropriation bill for fiscal year 1999.

At the outset, I would note that the rule waives clause 2 of rule XXI, and

that concerns the unauthorized and legislative provisions in an appropriation bill, and it also waives clause 6 of rule XXI concerning reappropriations.

The rule provides for 1 hour of general debate, equally divided between the chairman and the ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations. The bill will then be open for amendment under the 5-minute rule for a period of 5 hours, and so this bill will be completed today.

Amendments to be offered must have been printed in the portion of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD which is designated for that purpose in clause 6 of rule XXIII. Pro forma amendments for purposes of debate are also in order.

The rule also makes in order five specific amendments, each one to be offered at the appropriate point in the reading of the bill, and subject to debate equally divided and controlled for a specified period of time. And those times are listed here if Members need to look at it.

Each of these amendments shall be considered as read and must be offered by the Member designated in the report. There cannot be a designee or a substitute. All points of order against these five specific amendments are waived.

The rule provides for votes to be stacked or clustered so as to expedite procedures here on the floor and to permit Members to plan their schedules with some degree of certainty during this long day coming. In each such cluster of votes, a 15-minute vote will precede the various 5-minute votes that follow, in order to give Members time to come to the floor.

The rule provides for one motion to recommit, with or without instructions.

And, finally, Mr. Speaker, House Resolution 542 waives clause 1(b) of rule X, which relates to explanations in the report or rescissions on transfers of unexpended balances.

The rule also waives clause 2(l)(6) of Rule XI, concerning 3-day availability of the report, and also clause 7 of rule XXI, concerning a 3-day availability of printing requirements.

Mr. Speaker, House Resolution 542 will permit the expeditious consideration of this bill and is very much the same as the rules which have governed consideration of the foreign appropriation bills over the last 5 or 10 years. I call on Members to support the rule. It is a good rule.

Turning now to the bill itself, I would offer just a few brief comments.

This is a \$12.5 billion bill, which represents only about eight-tenths of 1 percent of the Federal budget. But what an important eight-tenths of 1 percent that is; nothing less than the foreign policy of the United States.

The Committee on Appropriations is always tasked with striking a difficult balance between scarce resources on the one hand and a great number of pressing and conflicting needs on the other hand. But by their very nature